

REVISION

2. Question:

Can PL 480 funds be used in excess currency countries to acquire indigenous publications and/or publications sold in such countries?

Answer:

This question was settled some time ago by Congressional action, which appointed the Library of Congress administrator of the PL 480 Program involving the acquisition, indexing, cataloging and housing of foreign published data acquired under the Program.

An amendment, approved September 6, 1958, of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistant Act of 1954 (Public Law 83-480) authorized the Librarian of Congress, in consultation with the National Science Foundation and other interested agencies, to use United States-owned foreign currencies, within such appropriations as are made by Congress, for the purchase of foreign publications; for cataloging, indexing, abstracting and related activities; and for the deposit of such materials in libraries and research centers in the areas to which they relate. The Legislative Branch Appropriation Act for the fiscal year ending June 30 1962, included \$400,000 to be used by the Library of Congress for such purposes in India, Pakistan, and the United Arab Republic. Of the amount appropriated, \$353,500 was provided in United States-owned foreign currencies and \$36,500 was provided for the U.S. dollar support required by the program.

Immediately following signature of the appropriation act by the President on August 10, 1961, the Library began to organize the program. The Office of Coordinator of Public Law 480 Program was established in the Processing Department, and Robert D. Stevens, formerly Coordinator for the Organization and Development of the Collections in the Reference Department, was appointed Coordinator of Public Law 480 Program.

On September 19, the Library received the approval of the Department of State to send the initial survey teams abroad.

Invitations to participate in the program had been sent to the list of American research libraries that had been selected with the aid of a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee.

The following institutions accepted the invitation to participate in the Public Law 480 Program and they receive sets as follows:

INDIA/PAKISTAN

University of California (Berkeley)  
University of Chicago  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
University of Hawaii  
University of Minnesota  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Texas  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin  
Yale University

THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

University of California (Los Angeles)  
Columbia University  
Hartford (Conn.) Seminary Foundation (which  
shares its set with Portland (Oreg.) State College  
Harvard University  
University of Michigan  
New York Public Library  
Princeton University  
University of Utah  
University of Virginia

Each of these participating institutions has contributed \$500 toward the dollar support for the program (Hartford Seminary and Portland State College are sharing the \$500 contribution for their shared set), and each has agreed to report receipts to the National Union Catalog and to make materials acquired available to other libraries on interlibrary loan.

During the period January 1 through June 30, 1962, the primary function of the 4 overseas centers was to acquire current books and to send them directly by international mail to the recipient libraries. In India, comprehensive sets of current government publications on the national and state levels are secured by means of a contract with the Ministry of Education of the Government of India. Commercially published serials and current monographs are purchased from bookdealers in Delhi, Bombay, Poona, and Calcutta. In West Pakistan, except for books in the Pashto language, which are acquired from the Pashto Academy in Peshawar, all commercial publications are purchased from bookdealers in Karachi. In East Pakistan the Public Law 480 staff acquires commercial publications directly from the publishers or from bookstores. Pakistan government publications are acquired from its Government Printing Office sales outlets. In the

UAR commercial publications are acquired from a Cairo bookstore, which also undertakes to bind for the program monographs published in paper covers. Government publications are purchased from the official sales outlet when they are available there or are secured by the staff in visits to the issuing offices. The Arab League supplies copies of its current publications without charge to all participants in the project. These arrangements have proved satisfactory.

By the close of the fiscal year nearly 400,000 publications had been acquired and shipped directly to American research libraries by the Public Law 480 offices in India, Pakistan, and the UAR, and by that time publications were being received at the rate of a million a year.